



NASA Weekly Update

Week of January 29 - February 5, 2007

Feb 5: NASA Announces FY 08 Budget Press

Conference: NASA Administrator Michael Griffin briefs the media about the agency's Fiscal Year 2008 budget at 1 p.m. EST, today. The press briefing is in NASA's main auditorium located at 300 E Street S.W. in Washington. Griffin will be joined by Deputy Administrator Shana Dale and the agency's associate administrators from the Space Operations, Science, Aeronautics and Exploration mission directorates. The news conference will be live on NASA Television and the agency's Internet homepage with questions from reporters at Headquarters and participating agency field locations.

After NASA Administrator Michael Griffin briefs the media about the agency's Fiscal Year 2008 budget, the agency's mission directorate associate administrators will be available by telephone to discuss the proposal's impact on their specific areas. The teleconferences will start no earlier than 2:30 p.m. The current schedule is:

- 2:30 p.m. Exploration Systems
- 3:30 p.m. Science
- 4:30 p.m. Space Operations
- 5:30 p.m. Aeronautics

Each teleconference is scheduled to last 45 minutes. The teleconferences can be reached by dialing 888-455-7144. The pass code is 30332. The number of available telephone lines is limited. Audio of the afternoon's teleconferences will be available on the Internet at: <http://www.nasa.gov/newsaudio>. The NASA budget and supporting information will be available at 1 p.m., Feb. 5, on the Internet at: <http://www.nasa.gov/budget>. For more about NASA TV and Internet streaming, visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/ntv>.

Feb 5: Astronauts Complete Second Spacewalk of

Series: Commander Michael Lopez-Alegria and Flight Engineer Suni Williams completed their spacewalk Sunday at 3:49 p.m. EST. This was the second of an unprecedented series of three spacewalks in nine days. Some of the tasks planned for this excursion

were similar to those of the first spacewalk on Wednesday. They reconfigured the second of two



Expedition 14 flight engineer Suni Williams works on the outside of the International Space Station.

cooling loops for the Destiny module, secured the aft radiator of the P6 truss after retraction and prepared the obsolete Early Ammonia Servicer for removal this summer. For information about the International Space Station, visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/station>

Feb 2: NASA's Shuttle Atlantis Set for Move to Vehicle Assembly Building:

On Wednesday, Feb. 7, Atlantis is scheduled to move from the Orbiter Processing Facility at NASA's Kennedy Space Center to the Vehicle Assembly Building. Once there, crews will attach Atlantis to its external fuel tank and twin solid rocket boosters. The first motion of the shuttle aboard the Crawler-Transporter is expected at 6 a.m. EST. Atlantis' targeted launch window opens March 15. During its 11-day mission to the International Space Station, the STS-117 crew of six astronauts will deliver a fourth segment for the station's backbone. They also will unfurl new solar arrays and fold up an old set of arrays during the 21st shuttle mission to the station. Video of the rollover will air on NASA TV's Video File. For NASA TV downlink, streaming video and scheduling information, visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/ntv>. For information about the

STS-117 mission and its crew, visit:
<http://www.nasa.gov/shuttle>.

Feb 2: NASA Moon-Impactor Mission Passes Major Review:

NASA's drive to return astronauts to the moon and later probe deeper into space achieved a key milestone recently when agency officials approved critical elements of a moon impact mission scheduled to launch in October 2008. NASA's unmanned Lunar Crater Observation and Sensing Satellite, known as LCROSS, will strike the moon near its south pole in January 2009. It will search for water and other materials that astronauts could use at a future lunar outpost. For information about the Lunar Crater Observation and Sensing Satellite on the Web, visit: <http://lcross.arc.nasa.gov>. For information about NASA's Exploration Systems Mission Directorate on the Web, visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/exploration>.

Feb 1: NASA to Highlight Next Space Station Component:

On Tuesday, Feb 6, at 10:30 a.m. EST, NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida will showcase the next element to be added to the International Space Station. The starboard 3/4 truss segment will launch aboard Space Shuttle Atlantis on mission STS-117, targeted for March 15. The element will be added to the 11-segment integrated truss structure, the station's backbone. The integrated truss structure eventually will span more than 300 feet. The S3/S4 truss has two large solar arrays and will provide one-fourth of the total power generation for the completed station. The S3/S4 truss is expected to be loaded into a transportation canister on Wednesday, Feb. 7, in preparation for its targeted journey to the launch pad on Feb. 12. For information on the STS-117 mission, visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/shuttle>.

Feb 1: Commercial Space Transportation Capabilities Agreements Signed:

On Wednesday, NASA agreed to cooperate with PlanetSpace Inc. of Chicago and Transformational Space Corp. (t/Space) of Reston, Va., to facilitate the commercialization of low-Earth orbit as they develop capabilities to transport goods and people to orbital destinations. The non-reimbursable Space Act agreements signed by NASA and the two companies involve no agency funding to the companies. The pacts establish milestones and objective criteria by which the companies can gauge their own progress, as part of the agency's Commercial Crew and Cargo Program. Under the agreements, NASA will share information that will help the companies understand projected requirements for space station crew and cargo transportation launch vehicles, spacecraft and NASA human rating criteria.

Jan 31: Space Station to Grow Faster, Mark Firsts Throughout Year: Already spanning an acre in orbit, the International Space Station this year will grow faster in size, power, volume and mass than ever

before, significantly expanding its capabilities and setting new records for humans in orbit. In addition to control centers in the United States, Russia and Canada, control centers for the station also will be activated in France, Germany and Japan, allowing NASA's partners to oversee their contributions to the station. In 2007, NASA and Russia plan to conduct as many as 24 spacewalks, more than has ever been done in a single year. The first spacewalk began at 9:14 a.m. CST Wednesday, Jan. 31 on NASA TV and features Mike Lopez-Alegria, the commander of the current space station mission, known as Expedition 14. For information about the International Space Station, visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/station>.

Jan 31: NASA to Fly Historic Jamestown Artifact, Mementos on Space Shuttle:

To honor early American explorers, NASA will fly into space four coins and a nearly 400-year-old artifact from historic Jamestown. The items will be aboard space shuttle



This lead cargo tag -- which reads "Yames Towne" -- is believed to have been discarded from a shipping crate or trunk arriving at Jamestown.

Atlantis during mission STS-117, targeted for launch in March. The artifact, a metal cargo tag reading "Yames Towne," was unearthed at Jamestown, the site of the first permanent English settlement in the Americas in 1607. Upon completion of the flight, it will have logged more than 4 million miles during four centuries, traveling from England to Jamestown and round trip to the International Space Station. Two sets of Jamestown commemorative coins, authorized by Congress and recently issued by the U.S. Mint, also will fly aboard Atlantis. For more information about the commemoration of Jamestown's 400th anniversary, visit: <http://www.americas400thanniversary.com>. For more information about Historic Jamestown, visit: <http://www.historicjamestowne.org>.

Jan 31: NASA Awards Mechanical Systems Engineering Services Contract:

NASA has selected Bastion Technologies, Inc. to provide mechanical systems engineering support for programs and projects

at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, Md. This is a cost-plus award fee, indefinite delivery, indefinite quantity contract with a minimum value of \$1 million and a maximum value of \$200 million. The contract begins Feb. 1, 2007, and has a five-year ordering period.

Jan 29: NASA Assigns Crew for Japanese Lab and Canadian Robotics Mission: NASA has assigned the crew for space shuttle mission STS-123. The flight will deliver both the first component of the Japanese Experiment Module Kibo and the new Canadian Dextre robotics system to the International Space Station. Navy Capt. Dominic L. Gorie will command the Space Shuttle Endeavour on the STS-123 mission, targeted for launch in December 2007. Air Force Col. Gregory H. Johnson will serve as the pilot. Mission specialists will include NASA astronauts Richard M. Linnehan; Air Force Maj. Robert L. Behnken; and Navy Capt. Michael J. Foreman. Video of the STS-123 and STS-120 crew members will air on NASA TV's Video File. For downlink and scheduling information and links to streaming video, visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/ntv>. For complete astronaut biographical information, visit: <http://www.jsc.nasa.gov/Bios/>. For more information about NASA's Space Shuttle Program, visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/shuttle>.

Weekly Status Reports



Atlantis (OV-104)

Mission: STS-117 - 21st International Space Station Flight (13A) -

S3/S4 Truss Segment Solar Arrays

Vehicle: Atlantis (OV-104)

Location: Orbiter Processing Facility Bay 1

Launch Date: Targeted for March 15, 2007

Launch Pad: 39A

Crew: Sturckow, Archambault, Reilly, Swanson, Forrester and Olivas

Inclination/Orbit Altitude: 51.6 degrees/122 nautical miles

Endeavour (OV-105)

Mission: STS-118 - 22nd International Space Station Flight (13A.1) -

S5 Truss Segment

Vehicle: Endeavour (OV-105)

Location: Orbiter Processing Facility Bay 2 Launch Date: Targeted for June 28, 2007 Launch Pad: 39A Crew: Kelly, Hobaugh, Williams, Morgan, Mastracchio, Caldwell and Anderson Inclination/Orbit Altitude: 51.6 degrees/122 nautical miles



For the second time in four days, two residents of the International Space Station stepped outside for a spacewalk to complete connecting cooling loops from a temporary to a permanent system. This time the excursion lasted just over seven hours. Wearing U.S. spacesuits, Expedition 14 Commander Mike Lopez-Alegria and Flight Engineer Suni Williams began their spacewalk at 7:38 a.m. CST, a few minutes ahead of schedule. After setting up tools and tethers outside the Quest airlock, they moved to the area that connects the Z1 truss to the S0 truss at the middle of the station's large girder-like truss system. This area is known as the "rats' nest."



THEMIS (Time History of Events and Macroscale Interactions During Substorms)

Launch Pad: 17-B, Cape Canaveral Air Force Station

Launch Vehicle: Boeing/United Launch Alliance Delta II

Launch Date: Feb. 15, 2007

Launch Time: 6:08 - 6:27 p.m. EST



- **Feb 8:** On the International Space Station, Lopez-Alegria and Williams will move from the airlock out to Crew Equipment Transfer Aid carts on the rails of the main truss.
- **Feb 15:** Launch of THEMIS
- **Feb 29:** New Horizons will make its closest pass to Jupiter on Feb. 28, threading its path through an "aim point" 1.4 million miles (2.3 million kilometers) from the center of Jupiter.
- **NET March 15:** Launch of Space Shuttle Atlantis from Kennedy Space Center.
- **March 19:** Landing of the Expedition 14 crew at Kazakhstan's Baikonur Cosmodrome.
- **NET March:** Launch of the Expedition 15 crew.

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